



The Tickle Newsletter



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2025 Best of PCSP Winners

The Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's (PCSP) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2025 Best of PCSP Community Awards. The awards ceremony celebrates outstanding achievements, volunteerism, and dedication throughout the community.

On behalf of Town Council and Staff, we wish to extend congratulations to all those who were nominated for this year's awards. It's the most nominations we've received, and are touched that so many residents want to celebrate others in our community as much as we do.



Female Athlete of the Year
Makenzie Wishart

Male Athlete of the Year
Carter Arnold

Coach of the Year
Brooke-Lynn Cooper

Team of the Year
**Brookside Bulldogs Grade
9A Girls Volleyball**

Employee of the Year
Debbie Hamilton

Artist of the Year
Karen Thorp

Municipal Scholarship Recipient
Noah Hepditch

New Business of the Year
Brad's Bins

Business of the Year
Jax's Skate Sharpening

Senior of the Year
Gary King

Youth of the Year
Grace Kelly

Volunteer of the Year
Susan St. Croix

Service Group of the Year
PCSP Lions Club

Lifetime Achievement Award
Robert Stapleton

Community Buzz at AWH Group



@awhcommittee
 infoawhcs@gmail.com
 awhgroup.ca

The AWH Group and community site have been full of activity this season! From birthday parties and corporate events to charity fundraisers and even a documentary screening, our space has been buzzing with energy.

Weekly yoga classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. continue to be a hit—offered on a pay-what-you-can basis. Our Tai Chi sessions were very well received and will return this fall. Community hikes have also seen great turnout, and our scenic hiking trails will soon be open to the public—stay tuned! Mark your calendars for our Fall Festival happening September 27–28—more details coming soon.

Our community food pantry—"Take What You Need, Leave What You Can"—has seen high usage, but thanks to generous residents and the dedication of our Pantry Committee, we're keeping up with demand.

Contact us to get involved, and visit our website for details!

July-September 2025

@townofpcsp
 @townofpcsp.bsky.social
 @pcspnl
 pcsp.ca

Friendship Towns

MONCHY-LE-PREUX

This spring, Deputy Mayor Madonna Stewart-Sharpe and Councillor Dave Bartlett travelled to Monchy-Le-Preux, France with residents Michael and Heather Pretty to officially launch the Friendship Towns partnership between the municipalities of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's and Monchy-Le-Preux.

Prior to the trip, an official signing took place on an online call. In Portugal Cove-St. Philip's, Mayor Carol McDonald, PCSP staff along with Michael Pretty, and in Monchy-le-Preux, Mayor Olivier Degauquier and Sophie Dumont signed a Friendship Town agreement marking the beginning of this historic connection.

The connection between both towns is rooted in the shared history of the Battle of Monchy in WWI.

On April 14th, 1917, five residents from our community fought in the battle as part of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. Only ten soldiers held the line that day, defending Monchy from over 600 German troops. Their unwavering bravery helped protect the gains at Vimy Ridge just days before. Today, Monchy-le-Preux honours their sacrifice with a Caribou Monument, under the namesake Caribou Park, holding annual remembrance ceremonies for the sacrifices made, which many didn't return from.

The partnership began in 2020 thanks to the key role Michael Pretty played with contributions through his work with the Trail of the Caribou project, further strengthening the ties between our town and place of historic significance across Europe.

The partnership has since grown to include classroom letter exchanges, town-to-town commemorations, and shared cultural celebrations. As official Friendship Towns, both PCSP and Monchy-le-Preux will continue to build meaningful relationships through remembrance, culture, and connection, with the reminder of the sacrifices made that will continue to inspire the future.



Municipal Awareness Day



Seniors Spring Concert



Sports Day at BCE!

WE OUR SCHOOLS!

Over the past school year, the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's has been proud to partner with our local schools to offer meaningful programs that support both the mind and body. These partnerships help us create community-minded opportunities that encourage learning, wellness, and connection among students of all ages.

We're committed to continuing this collaboration and look forward to building even more engaging experiences together in the year ahead.

Wishing all students, families, and school staff a safe and happy summer! A reminder that school starts again on September 3.

Tuesday, July 1st
St. Philip's Marina
11 am - 5 pm

Rain location: Brookside Intermediate
Regatta Rain Date: Saturday, July 5th



Shuttle Service from
Brookside Intermediate
See Pages 6 and 7 for
Full Details + Schedule

 pcsp.ca/regatta-festival

CANADA & DAY



Splash Pad

Now Open



Rainbow Gully Park



Monday-Sunday, 9:00 am to 8:00 pm



Please pay attention to user guidelines



Full information, visit pcsp.ca/splash-pad

Grand Opening July 4th



6:00 pm



Rainbow Gully Park



Portugal Gove
St. Philip's

Welcome to the Rainbow Gully Park
SPLASH PAD

Hours of Operation:
9:00 am to 8:00 pm
Monday to Sunday

Updates on closures can be found on pcsp.ca
Report vandalism, problems or concerns to
895-8000. In the event of an emergency, dial

SPLASH PAD RULES

Revised - all participants use at OW
10 and under MUST be supervised



Dog Etiquette

Attention all furry friend owners in PCSP! Just a friendly reminder to keep all your furry companions on a leash in all areas of the Town, except the off-leash dog park in Voisey's Brook Park.

Need a dog tag?

Swing by the Town Hall office or Beachy Cove Animal Hospital to get yours today!

To Report Off-Leash or Lost Animals

Contact public.works@pcsp.ca, or call 709-895-8000 ext. 228

ATV & Off-Road Vehicle Safety

Adventure awaits, but safety comes first! Whatever adventure you choose, we kindly remind residents of the following:

Safety First! Always wear your helmet, goggles, gloves, and protective clothing. It's not just about looking cool - it's about staying safe and being seen.

Know Your Ride. Get to know your ATV or off-road vehicle inside and out before hitting the gas. Understanding its capabilities and limitations are key to a safe ride.

Respect Private Property and the Environment. Please avoid travelling over private property, farmland, environmentally sensitive areas and Town Parks (both Rainbow Gully and Voisey's Brook). Always follow posted signs and boundaries.

Stay Sober. Never operate your ATV or off-road vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Your safety and the safety of others depend on clear judgement.

Ride Responsibly. Follow speed limits on designated ATV trails, and rules of the off-road vehicles act. Be courteous to other riders, hikers, and wildlife you encounter along the way.

To make a report to the RNC, please call 709-729-8000.



For more information, please refer to the provincial Off-Road Vehicles Act and Regulations here:

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2022/dgsnl/0510n04/>

Under Construction

As the weather becomes warmer and the days get longer, residents are reminded that our Public Works crew will begin conducting maintenance operations throughout the town, including line painting, sweeping, and road upgrades. We kindly ask residents for patience as our crews complete work throughout the summer months.

Updates will be posted regularly to our website and social media for any road closures or disruptions.

For questions, please contact our Public Works Department at public.works@pcsp.ca, or by calling 709-895-8000 ext. 228.





Summer 2025 Library Hours

June 16th, 2025 - August 29th, 2025



Tuesdays: 8:30 am to 11:30 am, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Wednesdays: 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm, 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Thursdays: 8:30 am to 11:30 am, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Please note - the hours above reflect times when the library is open for public use. The library is also open at select times for programs and events by registration only.



pcsp.ca/library



Summer Reading Challenge

The PCSP Summer Reading Challenge is On!

From July 7th through August 22nd, challenge yourself to a reading adventure this summer with books all about kindness, friendship, unity, and more! For every reading milestone you reach, your name will be entered in our grand prize draw! You can win additional entries by reading books from our theme list! Receive a **free** age appropriate book from the Town for each 5 books read. **Full information can be found on pcsp.ca/library**



Mike Stone

Recreation Coordinator

mike.stone@pcsp.ca

709-895-8000 ext.226

Save THE Date

FALL EVENTS
2025

Fall Fitness and Programming Registration
September 5th at 9:00 am via eServices.
September 14th programs begin.

National Seniors Day - October 1st
Fall Family Festival - October 19th
Trunk or Treat - End of October
Guy Fawkes Night - November 5th

Full details will be released on our website,
pcsp.ca/recreation-programs in August.

Regatta Week Events

**June
27**

18+ PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT 1 2:00pm \$5/person

Voiseys Brook Park Basketball Court

Random draw doubles tournament and teams play a minimum of 3 games; top team takes home the prize. Register for one tournament date only via eServices.

GLOW DANCE Grades 3 to 4 7-8pm / Grades 5 to 6 8:30-9:30pm

PCSP Recreation Centre

Hosted by the BU12 PCSP Spurrs come celebrate summer! Admission is \$10 per person and includes glow sticks. EMT admission fee, participant's name and contact info to spurrs2013@gmail.com. Canteen snacks available.

**June
28**

TOUCH-A-TRUCK & BBQ 11:30am & 12:00pm Free

Beachy Cove Elementary School

Family-friendly hands-on fun with fire trucks, construction vehicles and more!
No cost and no registration needed, drop by and enjoy.

Sensory-friendly time: 11:30am - 12:00pm Sirens & Horns time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

**June
29**

A MAUZY SUMMER DAY CIDER TASTING 2:00pm \$15/person

Mauzy Cider Farm (374 Bauline Line Ext.)

An afternoon of local craftsmanship with a behind-the-scenes tour and taste a variety of unique small-batch ciders. Ages 19+ only. Registration via eServices. Space is limited.

**June
30**

18+ PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT 2 2:00pm \$5/person

Voiseys Brook Park Basketball Court

Random draw doubles tournament and teams will play a minimum of 3 games; top team takes home the prize. Register for one tournament date only via eServices.

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT 9:00pm \$5/person

Rainbow Gully Park Softball Field

A community family favourite! Bring your camp chair and a blanket to enjoy "*Paddington in Peru!*" \$5 per person, movie begins at dark. Cash only canteen snacks available.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CARD GAME 8:00-10:00pm Free

PCSP Recreation Centre

Join the ladies of the Women's Institute for an evening of cards and conversation. Contact Dawn Cheeseman for details at dawncheeseman@nl.rogers.com

**July
1**

CANADA DAY & REGATTA DAY 11:00am-5:00pm

St. Philip's Marina

Traditional dory races, carnival games, live music, face painting, bouncy castles, and so much more! Followed by fireworks at 10:00pm from Rainbow Gully Park. Shuttle service from Brookside Intermediate available. Cash only event.

PCSP Regatta Festival



**July
2**

RAINBOW 50+ CLUB OPEN HOUSE 7:00pm Free

PCSP Recreation Centre

Everyone 50 years or older welcome for an evening of cards, darts & refreshments. Contact Gary King at 709-691-3972 for more information.

S.T.E.A.M. in the LIBRARY 6:00pm Free

PCSP Library

Hands-on science-y fun with experiments, slime, volcanoes and more for ages 12 and under! No cost and no registration needed, children must have one guardian with them.

CHALLENGE CUP SOCCER GAME 8:00pm Free

Rainbow Gully Park Turf Field

Join the PCSP Spurs as they take on the NLSA Senior Men's soccer league as part of the Challenge Cup Campaign! No cost and no registration needed, all ages welcome.

**July
3**

SENIORS DAY TRIP 10:00am-1:00pm \$25/person

Bay Roberts & Harbour Grace

A fun day around the bay for ages 50+! Enjoy the beauty of Bay Roberts community garden, a lovely meal in Harbour Grace and a tour of The Old Court House. To register, email Kirk at kirk.combden@pcsp.ca or call 709-895-8000 ext.265.

FAMILY GOODS BINGO 6:30-8:00pm \$5/person

PCSP Recreation Centre

Grab your dabbers and bring the whole family! This is a very popular event so come early, first come first served. Cash only canteen available.

**July
4**

SPLASH PAD GRAND OPENING 6:00-8:00pm Free

Rainbow Gully Park Splash Pad

Officially cutting the ribbon to open our new Splash Pad! Join us for some BBQ, music, and some water fun. Don't miss your chance to win a super summer prize pack! No cost and no registration needed, drop by and enjoy.

**July
5**

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9:00-11:00am \$6/person

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 10

Join us for a delicious start to your day, including pancakes, bacon, sausage, ham, fresh fruit, yogurt, cheese, juice, tea and coffee. No registration required and kids under the age of 2 eat for free.

REGATTA DAY RAIN DATE 11:00am-5:00pm

St. Philip's Marina

Rained out on July 1st? No problem! This is our back up date just in case. See the Town's social media pages for updates.



BEACHY COVE ELEMENTARY LEADS THE WAY IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Beachy Cove Elementary is proud to introduce its brand new Environmental Club, a school wide initiative led by an energetic group of Grade 4 students dedicated to protecting the planet and inspiring change in their school community.

At the heart of this movement are the Environmental Ambassadors- a passionate team of student leaders who are visiting younger classrooms to teach their peers about how small actions can make a big difference. These students are delivering short engaging presentations that show how everyone can help the Earth, simply by recycling their juice boxes and bottles each day.

Supporting this effort is the school's Recycling Team, who have taken charge of the daily beverage container collection. Their system makes recycling easy for teachers and students alike: classrooms simply leave their recycling containers outside their classrooms and the Grade 4 team takes care of the rest- collecting, cleaning and returning the bins with care and pride.

Meanwhile, a dedicated Gardening Group is getting their hands dirty with a big vision: the creation of a perennial food forest on school grounds. With guidance and support from Murray's Gardening Centre, this legacy project will grow into a self-sustaining source of fruits, vegetables and herbs for years to come. Students are learning about sustainable gardening practices and the importance of native and perennial plants in creating a balanced ecosystem.

Our budding Grade 4 environmentalists have embarked on an exciting journey to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship right here at school. With grant money from the Wellness Coalition, the newly established environmental club is tackling various initiatives, with one focus on a fascinating chick hatchery project. The preparations for this undertaking began in late April with the assembly of incubators and discussions about the chick and duckling life cycle and ethical considerations surrounding animal care. Students diligently established a care schedule, demonstrating their commitment to nurturing new life.

Anticipation has been growing since the fertilized eggs were carefully placed in incubators in early May. Students are actively monitoring temperature and humidity, learning firsthand about embryonic development stages as they maintain daily observation logs. This hands-on experience culminates in the exciting "chick hatching" phase, which is currently underway and will continue through the end of June. The young environmental stewards are closely monitoring the eggs, and as chicks emerge, they are being carefully transferred to a brooder with appropriate heat and bedding. This project offers an invaluable opportunity for the students to learn about chick nutrition, growth, and the profound responsibility of caring for living creatures, fostering a deeper understanding of nature's delicate balance. In addition, they are taking on a leadership role as they share this experience with the entire school community. It's been an egg-citing spring.

GET READY TO VOTE, PCSP!



Mark your calendars! Election day in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's is set for **Thursday, October 2nd, 2025.**

Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., with voting stations located at the Recreation Centre and the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 10.

Details about the Nomination Period, Advanced Polling Dates, and Vote-By-Mail (VBM) will be announced as they are confirmed by Council.

The list of candidates for Mayor and six Councillor positions will be posted in local convenience stores no later than September 18—keep an eye out! Thinking of running but unsure about the commitment? We're hosting a Candidate Information Session to help you decide if it's right for you - information will be announced on our social media and website.

What's next? Make sure you're on the Voters List and check the Town's website to find your assigned polling station location. If you'll be out of town on election day, you may be eligible to vote by Proxy—details on how to pre-register will be posted online. Need help voting? Contact the Returning Officer.

We're also looking for election workers! These are paid contractor positions. It's a great opportunity to get involved in your community and support the democratic process. To apply, call the Returning Officer at 709-895-8000 ext. 223 or email elections@pcsp.ca.

We'll be sharing regular updates on the Town's website <https://pcsp.ca/local-government/elections/>, and social media channels, including live election results after the polls close—right up until seven new councillors are declared! To find out what Polling Station you are assigned to check the website.

Stay tuned—and make sure you're ready to have your say in shaping the future of our community!

KEY DATES

- ✓ Candidate List - September 18
- ✓ Polling Day - October 2nd
- ✓ Nomination Period, Advanced Polling, Vote-by-Mail details - July to October

Stay Informed with PCSP Connects!



Emergencies, service interruptions, and important updates—get the information you need, when you need it! PCSP Connects is our official mass alert system, keeping residents updated on emergency alerts, waste collection changes, service interruptions, and more!

Sign up today at pcsp.ca by clicking on 'PCSP Connects' on the top right in the purple banner, and stay connected with your community.

Note: If you choose phone notifications, you must listen to the full message before unsubscribing. Calls will appear from an Alberta area code, but rest assured, it's PCSP!

BE WILDFIRE SAFE. PREPARE YOUR HOME.



Visit:
www.nfpa.org/downloadable-resources/safety-tip-sheets/how-to-prepare-your-home-for-wildfires
to download resources

Burn Permit Compliance



Upon lifting the fire ban on June 9th,

the PCSP Volunteer Fire Department had an influx of applicants for town burn permits. All were issued that were applied for and acquired the Department of Forestry burning permit in addition to the town's. Both permits outline the conditions for burning, with permit holders expected to comply with the outlined conditions.

On June 10th, PCSPVFD were dispatched to a reported structure fire.

The permit had only been acquired just hours prior to the dispatch.

With dispatch information advising the fire could be seen on the second floor. Upon arrival, it was found that it wasn't a structure fire but rather a massive bonfire that had been set by a permit holder. The fire was so large that it appeared the flames were extending over the roof of the adjacent home with the radiant heat from the fire damaged (melted) vinyl siding on a garage that was about 6-7 M away from the bonfire.

It's imperative that persons who acquire burning permits comply with the terms and conditions as prescribed by the permits.

As council is aware, the NE Avalon Chiefs are collaborating on monitoring the daily forest fire hazard ratings and weather conditions, with a view to considering, as required, the need to implement fire bans. Such decisions are not taken lightly, but when fire bans are implemented, it is done clearly in the interest of safety within the NE Avalon communities. We also assess the same conditions to the best of our ability when considering rescinding fire bans. Regrettably, it is the actions of people such as herein described that complicate the decision process, as the NE Avalon Chiefs know that not all people heed the conditions of permits.

We shall continue to maintain vigilance on the summer conditions and suitability for open air burning. Residents can be assured that any actions that implement a fire ban are only initiated in the best fire safety interest of the town.



Looking for a fun and friendly way to spend your Friday afternoons? The Rainbow 50+ Club meets every Friday in the PCSP Recreation Centre from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. We'd love for you to join us! 50 plus will meet on Wednesdays during the summer from June 25th through August 27th.

What's Happening? Weekly card games and great conversations. Monthly socials featuring a delicious catered lunch. Non-members are welcome to join these events for a small fee! New members are always encouraged to sign up – everyone is welcome! For more information or to sign up, please contact Gary King at 709-691-3902.

The club is holding an open-house during the PCSP Regatta Festival on July 2nd at 7:00 pm! Come join us for this free event for refreshments, cards, and darts.



Location: AWH Community Site, 5 R.C. Church Road,
Portugal Cove-St. Philips, NL

Join us for an exciting and informative session about Killick Ecovillage, a sustainable, community-focused neighbourhood.

What to Expect:

Site/House Design: Explore the architectural vision for Killick Ecovillage, including designs for our homes and common house.

Killick Permaculture & Conservation: Learn about strategies and conservation efforts shaping our sustainable community.

Gully Hill Farm at Killick Ecovillage: Learn about our plans for the working farm at Killick Ecovillage

Membership Launch: This session marks the official launch of our Killick Ecovillage Resident Membership. Learn how you can become part of this vibrant, eco-conscious community! Don't miss this opportunity to be part of something special.

For more details, or to RSVP, please contact us at
cohousingnlnewsletter@gmail.com or contact Norma at 709-699-1730
<https://killickecovillage.ca>

St. Lawrence Thrift Store

Donation drop off:

Thursdays - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturdays - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Open to shop:

Saturdays - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

 **@stlawrencethrift**



BRANCH 10, PORTUGAL COVE *Legion Happenings...* 709-895-6521

THE LEGION VETERAN WELCOME PROGRAM

Support Canadian Veterans with a FREE one-year Legion membership

Currently serving or retired CAF and RCMP members who have not yet joined are eligible to receive their free first year of membership with the Legion. The free first year of membership is also open to spouses, children 18+ and parents or guardians of Canadian Veterans (serving, retired or passed CAF or RCMP member) who have not yet joined the Legion. Get to know your Legion. Help us support the Canadian military community and ensure Canada never forgets the sacrifices of those who served.

Learn more and join today: legion.ca/welcome



If you're looking for a place to host your next event, please don't hesitate to call us @ 709-895-6521.

We have great rates and our hall has A/C and an outdoor deck.

Please be advised that the Legion has been designated as a SCENT FREE building.

We respectfully request your cooperation. Thank you. Always accepting new applications.

The Legion needs you!

Mayor's Message



Mayor McDonald awarding Noah Hepditch with the Municipal Scholarship at the Best of PCSP Awards ceremony in April.

As we enjoy the long days and warm breezes of summer, I want to wish all of our students in the community a safe and happy summer. You've all worked hard throughout the year, and we're celebrating your success with you. We encourage you to explore our many parks and facilities throughout the summer months, and a gentle reminder to leave them as you found them so all can enjoy. I also want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who took the time to share their feedback during the Civic Centre public consultation and survey. Your input helps guide council decisions and ensures our community continues to grow in a way that reflects the needs of our residents

We have many exciting things happening in our community. One of the most anticipated events of the season is the PCSP Regatta Festival. This annual celebration brings together neighbours, families, and friends for a week full of fun, tradition, and community spirit. I encourage everyone to come out and take part in the festivities—it's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what makes PCSP such a special place to live.

This fall, our town will also be holding a municipal election. If you're passionate about our community and have ideas to help shape its future, I encourage you to consider running for council. Serving as an elected official is both a responsibility and a privilege, and it offers the chance to make meaningful contributions to the place we all call home. Even if you're not considering a run, your voice matters, make sure to vote and stay engaged in the process.

Finally, with school out for the summer, I ask everyone to please be extra cautious while driving. Children are out enjoying their break, so let's all do our part to keep them safe. Wishing you all a safe and joyful summer!

Carol

We Want to Hear from You!

We release The Tickle to our community of over 8,000 residents each quarter via our website, email, and social media. This free newsletter includes three months of event calendars, feel-good community stories, news and updates from Town Hall, and more. In 2024, we switched to a digital format that aligns with the Town's 2023-2028 Strategic Plan—and we want you to be part of it!

As we head into the summer season, we're looking for great stories, upcoming events, helpful resources, or even a simple message wishing our community the best. We understand that many events may not be happening until later in the summer, but we encourage you to share where residents can stay updated with your business or group (emails, social media, etc.) or submit save-the-date information.

We want to feature as many community groups as possible, but space is limited. To help accommodate everyone, please keep submissions to a maximum of two paragraphs.

The firm deadline for the October to December issue is **Friday, September 12th, 2025**, and the newsletter will be released in early October. If you have any questions or need assistance with ideas, please reach out to **Laura at laura.barnes@pcsp.ca**.